Section 12 Adult Literacy Program

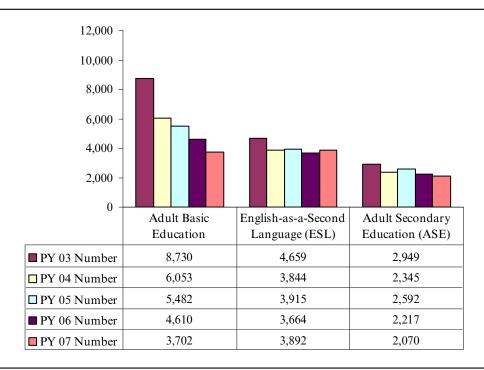
Iowa's Adult Literacy Program is delivered through Iowa's system of 15 community colleges. Adult Literacy in Iowa is defined as a program of instruction designed for adults who lack competence in reading, writing, speaking, problem solving or computation at a level to function in society, on a job, or in a family. It includes Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and working towards Iowa's High School Equivalency Diploma (GED).

Highlights of the Program Year 2007 Adult Literacy Program accomplishments:

- Although there was an 7.9% decrease in enrollment in adult literacy programs, there was a 6% increase in the number of English as a Second Language (ESL) students enrolled.
- There was a slight increase in the number of percent of enrollees who were pre-post assessed from Program Year 2006 to Program Year 2007 (76% reported for Program Year 2006 and 78% reported for Program Year 2007).
- There was a significant increase in the number of basic skills certificates issued in 2007. The percentage of eligible adult literacy program enrollees obtaining basic skill certificates rose from 52% in Fiscal Year 2006 to 76% in Fiscal Year 2007.

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BY INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM TYPE

PROGRAM YEAR 2003 TO PROGRAM YEAR 2007



Source: Narrative Report to OVAE as part of Annual Performance Report of the Adult Education State Administered Grant program, submitted Dec. 2007.

PY = Program Year

General Equivalency Diplomas (GED)

In Fiscal Year 2007, approximately 3,750 students were awarded high school equivalency diplomas (GEDs). Iowa community colleges issue GEDs upon completion of five standardized exams. As Table 41 indicates, Iowa has maintained exceptionally high GED pass rates for the past five years. In Fiscal Year 2007, 99% of students taking GED exams were awarded GEDs. Iowa maintains the highest GED pass rate in the U.S. and Canada.

Table 41

GENERAL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMAS ISSUED BY IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGES FISCAL YEAR 2003 TO FISCAL YEAR 2007

Fiscal Year	GEDs Issued	Pass Rate	
2003	3,845	95%	
2004	3,958	98	
2005	3,784	99	
2006	3,632	99	
2007	3,750	99	

Source: Iowa Department of Education, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education.

Additional adult literacy program information can be obtained from the following web address: http://www.readiowa.org